# NASA/TM-2009-215316 NESC-RP-05-113/05-034-E





# NESC Review of the 8-Foot High Temperature Tunnel (HTT) Oxygen Storage Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements

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March 16, 2006

# NASA Engineering and Safety Center Technical Consultation Report Title: NESC Review of the 8-Foot High Temperature Tunnel (HTT) Oxygen Storage Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements

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#### **Volume I: Technical Consultation Report**

#### 1.0 Authorization and Notification

The request to conduct a consultation on the 8-Foot HTT Liquid Oxygen (LOX) Storage Pressure Vessels was submitted to the NASA Engineering and Safety Center (NESC) on June 6, 2005.

The initial evaluation of the request was presented to the NESC Review Board (NRB) and the consultation was approved on August 12, 2005. The consultation review was held on September 7-8, 2005, and a report documenting findings, recommendations, observations was written.

On October 5, 2005, the consultation team reconvened to review additional information and results pertaining to the LOX Run Tank fatigue and fracture analysis results. After reviewing the new information, the consultation team developed revised recommendations. The revised recommendations, documented in the Addendum to this report, were approved by the NRB on October 6, 2005, and presented to the NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) Executive Council on October 7, 2005.

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# 2.0 Signature Page

# **Consultation Team Members**

Original signed on file

Michael Gilbert, NESC Lead	Eric Hoffman, LaRC
Ivatury Raju, NESC	Robert Piascik, NESC
Kenneth Cameron, NESC	Michael Kirsch, NESC
Pappu Murthy, GRC	George Hopson, NESC
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#### 3.0 Team Members, Ex Officio Members, and Consultants

Michael Gilbert, NESC Chief Engineer, Team Lead

Eric Hoffman, LaRC Materials
Pappu Murthy, GRC Structures

Wayne Frazier, HQ Safety & Mission Assurance (S&MA)

Owen Greulich, HQ S&MA

George Hopson, NESC Propulsion Discipline Engineer and Technical

Warrant Holder

Ivatury Raju, NESC Structures Discipline Engineer and Technical

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Robert Piascik, NESC Materials Discipline Engineer and Technical

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Michael Kirsch, NESC

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Deputy for S&MA

Principal Engineer

Administrative Support

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## 4.0 Executive Summary

The 8-Foot HTT (refer to Figure 4.0-1) is used to conduct tests of air-breathing hypersonic propulsion systems at Mach numbers 4, 5, and 7. Methane, Air, and LOX are mixed and burned in a combustor to produce test gas stream containing 21 percent by volume oxygen.

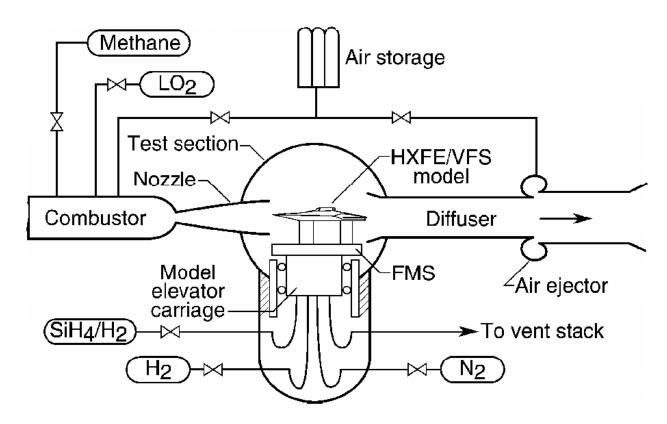


Figure 4.0-1. Schematic Drawing of the 8-Foot HTT for Air Breathing Propulsion Testing

The NESC was requested by the NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council to review the rationale for a proposed change to the recertification requirements, specifically the internal inspection requirements, of the 8-Foot HTT LOX Run Tank and LOX Storage Tank. The Run Tank is an 8,000 gallon cryogenic tank used to provide LOX to the tunnel during operations, and is pressured during the tunnel run to 2,250 pounds per square inch gage (psig). The Storage Tank is a 25,000 gallon cryogenic tank used to store LOX at slightly above atmospheric pressure as a supply source for the Run Tank. Both tanks consist of an inner pressure vessel surrounded by an external shell, with space between the shells maintained under vacuum conditions. The proposed changes to the inspection requirements include:

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- LOX Run Tank: from 10 years internal/external inspection to internal/external inspection after 1,000 pressure cycles.
- LOX Storage Tank: from 10 years internal/external inspection to 10 year visual external inspection only.

In reviewing the rationale for the proposed changes, the NESC Review Team determined that the fracture analysis was deficient and that the LOX Run Tank was not a "Leak-Before-Burst" (LBB) vessel. The NESC Review Team recommended immediate stand-down of the 8-Foot HTT until either the analysis deficiencies were corrected or the tank was inspected. The recommendation was accepted and the 8-Foot HTT stood-down operations on September 8, 2005. Efforts to correct the analysis deficiencies began immediately thereafter.

The NESC Review Team also determined that there were no analyses supporting changes to the LOX Storage Tank requirements and recommended that such analyses be performed.

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#### 5.0 Consultation Plan

The NESC assembled a team of technical experts, NESC Discipline Engineers, Discipline Technical Warrant Holders, and S&MA personnel, led by the LaRC's NESC Chief Engineer.

The team met on September 7-8, 2005, to conduct a review and accomplished the following:

- Toured the facility.
- Reviewed the materials, stress, fatigue, and fracture analyses results.
- Interviewed the analysts that performed the analyses.
- Reviewed the fabrication, service, and repair history of the tanks.
- Interviewed Facility, S&MA, and Pressure Systems Managers.
- Consulted with a Non-Destructive Evaluation expert.

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# 6.0 Description of the Problem, Proposed Solutions, and Risk Assessment

#### **6.1** Description of the Problem

Both the LOX Run Tank and LOX Storage Tank were due for internal inspection and recertification in calendar year 2000. A review by the Pressure Systems Subcommittee of the NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council in late 2004 identified that the 8-Foot HTT LOX Storage and Run tanks had not been recertified. Systemic issues related to the missed recertification are being addressed by the NASA LaRC.

It was determined that continued operation of the facility beyond the recertification date was warranted based on the following conditions:

#### **LOX Run Tank (Refer to the sketch in Appendix B)**

- The tank was determined to be LBB by analysis.
- Monitoring of the vacuum level between the inner pressure shell and the external shell would identify the presence of through-cracks in the pressure shell and allow the facility to stop operations before catastrophic failure would occur.

#### **Storage Tank**

- The tank operates at constant temperature and pressure, whereas crack growth is a function of temperature and pressure cycles.
- The tank has an operational safety factor of 8 on ultimate material strength.
- The allowable working pressure of the tank is 100 psia. The tank nominally operates at 45 psia.

# **6.2** Proposed Solution

The Pressure Systems Subcommittee recommended to the NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council, based on contracted analyses, that the recertification requirement for the 8-Foot HTT LOX tanks be changed as follows:

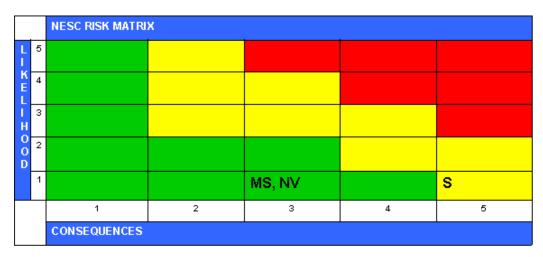
1. Change LOX Storage Tank requirement to time-based visual external inspection techniques only.

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2. Change LOX Run Time Tank to use 1,000 pressure cycles instead of 10 years in operation as basis for inspection.

#### 6.3 Risk Assessment

There were no immediate safety risks at the time the review request was evaluated. The analyses at that time indicated that sufficient margins existed to allow continued operations even though the tanks were at approximately 150 percent of the required inspection interval. The risk assessment is shown in Figure 6.3-1. Refer to Appendix D for a description of the NESC Risk Assessment likelihood and consequences.



S – Safety NV – National Visibility MS – Mission Success

Figure 6.3-1. 5 x 5 Risk Acceptance Matrix

#### **Safety**

- Probability: Very low probability of immediate failure, based on large analytical margins.
- Consequence: Explosion and/or fire in proximity to inhabited buildings.

#### **National Visibility**

- Probability: Very low probability of immediate failure, based on large analytical margins.
- Consequences: Publicity from failure to address Office of Inspector General (OIG) audit report.

#### **Mission Success**

• Probability: Very low probability of immediate failure, based on large analytical margins.

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• Impact: Assumed hardware loss between \$10M - \$100M; no immediate impact to flight projects, might impact Exploration initiative.

# 7.0 Data Analysis

The NESC Review Team reviewed the stress, fatigue, and fracture analyses of the LOX Run Tank. The individuals that performed these analyses were interviewed by the NESC Review Team to gain full understanding and to resolve any questions. The results of the data analyses are documented in Section 8.1, Findings.

Refer to Appendix C for key analyses figures reviewed by the team.

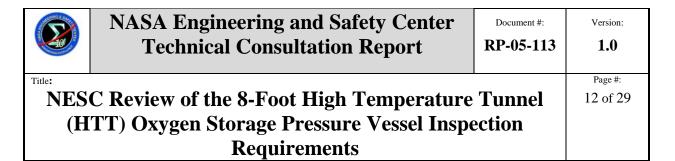
### 8.0 Findings, Recommendations, and Observations

#### 8.1 Findings

- **F-1.** The damage tolerance analyses are insufficient to demonstrate LBB for the LOX Run Tank for the following reasons:
  - Critical crack size is predicted to be less than the tank wall thickness.
  - Fracture mechanics analyses did not account for weld material properties or residual stresses.
  - The structural finite element models do not capture changes in thickness, geometry, loading, and material properties.

The tank, as constructed, contains welded-in forgings for the upper access port and nozzles at both the top and bottom of the tank. The properties of the weld material and the forgings differ from the properties of the material used for the tank walls, even though both the tank wall and forgings are 347 Stainless Steel. The crack growth analysis assumed uniform material properties for all sections of the tank and did not include analyses of the welds. In addition, material properties for 304 Stainless Steel were used in the analyses as being representative of 347 Stainless Steel because material properties for 347 Stainless Steel were not readily available.

Although a critical crack size less than the tank wall thickness was predicted, it was assumed that the crack would also grow perpendicular to the thickness until reaching an adjacent nozzle opening, which would act as a crack stop. The crack would then be



stable (not growing) and be more than twice the wall thickness in length, thus satisfying LBB criteria.

This assumption did not account for the weldments or the changes in material properties along the assumed path of the crack and, therefore, is invalid. Also, the NASA standard for LBB is crack length 10 times the wall thickness, whereas the analysis was based on crack length 2 times the wall thickness. Refer to Observation O-3.

- **F-2.** The fatigue analysis method used is inconsistent with the original fabrication inspection performed on the LOX Run Tank for the following reasons:
  - The fatigue analysis was performed according to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Section VIII, Division 2. Application of this analysis is based on construction of the tank to ASME Section VIII, Division 2, which requires stringent manufacturing inspections. These inspections set the initial crack size to be used in subsequent fatigue analyses based on the actual minimum detectable flaw size at the time the inspections were conducted.
  - The LOX Run Tank was actually constructed to ASME Section VIII, Division 1, with much less stringent quality assurance, inspection, and process controls.
  - The ASME Section VIII, Division 2, fatigue analysis was performed based on an assumed crack size rather than the minimum detectable size from the manufacturing inspection process.
- **F-3.** The LOX Run Tank fatigue life calculations do not currently account for pre-LaRC use. The tank was manufactured in 1959, but was first put into service at the HTT in 1989. Since 1989, the LOX Run Tank has been subject to about 600 pressure cycles. The tank operational history prior to service at the HTT is not accounted for, nor has it been demonstrated that the tank was restored to "zero-time" status in 1989.
- **F-4.** All previous tank inspections have revealed cracks and/or crack-like indications that were repaired or removed. The inspection history, shown below, suggests that cracks continually initiate or that the inspections may not have found all flaws.
  - 1965: Cracks in 4-inch boss weld repaired
  - 1986: Four linear indications found and ground out
  - 1991: Six linear indications found and ground out
- **F-5.** No analysis or prior inspection data was available to establish a rationale to change the inspection requirements for the LOX Storage Tank.

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**F-6.** The physical location of the LOX Run and Storage Tanks necessitated a waiver to requirements on proximity of LOX tanks to occupied buildings. The waiver has as an acceptance rationale maintaining the tanks in a certified state.

#### 8.2 Recommendations

- **R-1.** Remove the LOX Run Tank from run-time pressure service until the LBB rationale is verified and the risk of continued operation is accepted, or until an inspection is performed and any detected flaws are properly dispositioned (F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4 and F-6).
- **R-2.** Develop analyses to support a rationale for changing the LOX Storage Tank inspection requirements (F-5).
  - The tank can continue in current operation while rationale is developed.
  - The Storage Tank must be determined to be LBB or fracture-critical to establish appropriate inspection intervals.

#### 8.3 Observations

- **O-1.** Inspection intervals should be determined by *both* cyclic-loading and maximum time, based on industry practices and standards. Lengthening of inspection intervals should include as rationale prior inspection history and data.
- **O-2.** During the review, the team inquired about the Oxygen Hazards analysis for the HTT. Retrieval of records was not completed by the time the review team meeting ended.
- **O-3.** The "ten times the thickness" NASA standard is applicable to thin-walled pressure vessels and pipes. For thick-walled pressure vessels (such as LOX Run Tank of 4.73 inches in thickness), the NASA standards are not clearly defined and the Nuclear Industry Code for LBB conditions should be used. The Nuclear Industry Code LBB conditions require the development of a through-the-thickness crack with sufficient crack opening for the fluid to leak and be detected.

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#### 9.0 Lessons Learned

There were no lessons learned during this consultation.

#### 10.0 Definition of Terms

Corrective Actions Changes to design processes, work instructions, workmanship practices,

training, inspections, tests, procedures, specifications, drawings, tools, equipment, facilities, resources, or material that result in preventing, minimizing, or limiting the potential for recurrence of a problem.

Finding A conclusion based on facts established during the assessment/inspection

by the investigating authority.

Lessons Learned Knowledge or understanding gained by experience. The experience may

be positive, as in a successful test or mission, or negative, as in a mishap or failure. A lesson must be significant in that it has real or assumed impact on operations; valid in that it is factually and technically correct; and applicable in that it identifies a specific design, process, or decision that reduces or limits the potential for failures and mishaps, or reinforces a

positive result.

Observation A factor, event, or circumstance identified during the

assessment/inspection that did not contribute to the problem, but if left uncorrected has the potential to cause a mishap, injury, or increase the

severity should a mishap occur.

Problem The subject of the technical assessment/inspection.

Requirement An action developed by the assessment/inspection team to correct the

cause or a deficiency identified during the investigation. The requirements

will be used in the preparation of the corrective action plan.

Root Cause Along a chain of events leading to a mishap or close call, the first causal

action or failure to act that could have been controlled systemically either

by policy/practice/procedure or individual adherence to

policy/practice/procedure.

# 11.0 Minority Report (Dissenting Opinions)

There were no dissenting opinions during this consultation.

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#### Summary of Activities from September 8, 2005 to October 7, 2005

On September 8, 2005, following a two-day review, the NESC 8-Foot High Temperature Tunnel (HTT) Oxygen Storage Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements Technical Consultation team issued a safety recommendation to the Director, Safety and Mission Assurance (S&MA), NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC), to immediately stand-down operations of the HTT until deficiencies in the fatigue and fracture analyses of the LOX Run Tank could be corrected. This recommendation was based on the fact that deficiencies in the analyses negated the then current "Leak-Before-Burst" (LBB) result for the LOX Run Tank. "Leak-Before-Burst" was an essential part of the rationale for continuing to operate the tank 5 years beyond its specified inspection and certification date. The Director, S&MA, LaRC, accepted this recommendation and ordered the immediate stand-down of HTT test operations. The findings, recommendations, and observations developed by the NESC Technical Consultation Team from the review on September 7-8, 2005, are fully documented in the main body of this report.

Subsequent to the HTT stand-down, an analysis team was formed by the NASA LaRC to update the fatigue and fracture analyses. The NESC provided technical assistance to, and consulted with, the Center analysis team in critical areas of materials properties and fatigue and fracture analysis methods. As a result of improved models, materials data, and revised analytical techniques, the Center analysis team determined:

- a. The LOX Run Tank is fracture-critical and *not* a LBB design.
- b. Conservative damage tolerance analyses showed large analytical margins (factor of 10+) for a limited number (<100) of additional LOX Run Tank pressure cycles.

On October 5, 2005, the NESC Technical Consultation Team reconvened via telecon to review the results [ref. 1] of the NASA LaRC HTT LOX Run Tank re-analysis efforts. The NESC Technical Consultation Team concurred with the results (items a. and b. above) and developed a set of revised recommendations and additional observations (listed below). This set of revised recommendations and additional observations were reviewed and approved by the NESC Review Board on October 6, 2005 and presented (in briefing format) to the NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council on October 7, 2005. The NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council accepted the NESC recommendations as written.

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#### **Revised and Additional Recommendations**

- R-1 (Revised). Based on conservative analysis assumptions and large analytical margins in the revised fatigue and fracture analyses, the NESC Technical Consultation Team's position on the LOX Run Tank is:
  - Completion of the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) Ground Demonstration Engine test program is acceptable, based on an assumed test program of less than 100 additional pressure cycles of the LOX Run Tank.
  - The LOX Run Tank should be inspected and recertified immediately following the completion of the AFRL tests before any additional test programs are conducted.
- R-2 (Revised). Written and approved rationale for external inspection on the vacuum shell only of the LOX Storage Tank is required.
- R-3 (New). Stennis Space Center and other NASA facilities should be consulted and surveyed for high-pressure LOX tank inspection methods, techniques, and capabilities.

#### **Additional Observations**

- O-4. Atmospheric pressure load modeling in the revised analysis needs to be updated; the overall effect is expected to be very minor (order of 14/2250 psi).
  - The atmospheric pressure acts on the external vacuum jacket shell and transfers to the LOX Run Tank pressure shell as point loads through standoffs, not as a uniform load on the pressure shell.
- O-5. Changes to the baseline inspection requirements may require changes to the NASA HQ-approved site waiver for the tank locations.
  - "Waiver-of-the-waiver" approval requirements to conduct the AFRL tests, if any, needs to be determined.
- O-6. Vacuum monitoring of the LOX Run Tank as a safety precaution may lead to a false sense of security.

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1. Forth, S.C.; Harvin, S.F.; Gregory, P.B.; Mason, B.H.; Thompson, J.E.; and Hoffman, E.K. "Damage Tolerance Analysis of a Pressurized Liquid Oxygen Tank", NASA/TM-2006-214274, 2006.

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- NESC Risk Assessment D
- List of Acronyms Ε

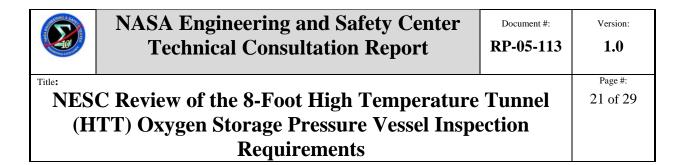
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# Appendix A. ITA/I Request Form (NESC-PR-003-FM-01)

NASA Engineering and Safety Center Request Form					
Submit this ITA/I Request, with associat NRB Executive Secretary, M/S 105	ted artifacts attached, to: nrbexecse, NASA Langley Research Center, Ha				
Section 1: NESC Review Board (NRB) Executive Secretary Record of Receipt					
Received (mm/dd/yyyy h:mm am/pm) 6/6/2005 12:00 AM	Status: New	Reference #: 05-034-E			
Initiator Name: Roy Bridges	E-mail: Roy.D.Bridges@nasa.gov	Center: LARC			
Phone: (757)-864-4111, Ext	Mail Stop: 105				
Temperature Tunnel be changed from 10 year the high pressure tank has about 600 pressure Mr. R. Bridges, requested NESC evaluation operations of the system were approved based leaks. Other considerations include the proximate required), and the fact that the original 10-year Source (e.g. email, phone call, posted on web Type of Request:  Proposed Need Date: 8/1/2005  Date forwarded to Systems Engineering Office Section 2: Systems Engineering Office Section 2: Systems Engineering Office Section 2.1 Potential TTA/I Identification  Received by SEO: (mm/dd/yyyy h:mm am/pr Potential ITA/I candidate?   Assigned Initial Evaluator (IE): Mike Gill Date assigned (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/14/2005  Due date for ITA/I Screening (mm/dd/yyy)	ecycles total. The chair of the LaRC E of the proposal before final consideration d on existing safety procedures and insimity of these systems to occupied builtar inservice inspection due in 2000 has bee (SEO): (mm/dd/yyyy h:mm am/pm)  ening m): 6/6/2005 12:00 AM  bert	xecutive Safety Council, on. Continued interim trumentation for detecting dings (a siting waiver was yet to be completed.			
Section 2.2 Non-ITA/I Action					
Requires additional NESC action (non-ITA/I) If yes:  Description of action: Actionee: Is follow-up required?  Yes No I Follow-up status/date: If no:					
NECC Discourse Community (signature	Λ.				
NESC Director Concurrence (signature	7).				

NESC Request Form NESC-PR-003-FM-01, v1.0

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Section 3: Initial Evaluation				
Received by IE: (mm/dd/yyyy h:mm am/pm):				
Screening complete date:				
Valid ITA/I candidate? ☐Yes ☐ No				
Initial Evaluation Report #: NESC-PN-				
Target NRB Review Date:				
9	-			
Section 4: NRB Review and Disposition of NCE Response Report	-			
ITA/I Approved: Yes No Date Approved: Priority: - Select -				
Section 5: ITA/I Lead Planning, Conduct, and Reporting				
Plan Development Start Date:				
ITA/I Plan # NESC-PL-				
Plan Approval Date: ITA/I Start Date Planned: Actual:				
111111111111111111111111111111111111111				
ITA/I Completed Date:				
ITA/I Final Report #: NESC-PN-				
ITA/I Briefing Package #: NESC-PN- Follow-up Required? Yes No				
Section 6: Follow-up				
Date Findings Briefed to Customer:				
Follow-up Accepted: Yes No				
Follow-up Completed Date:				
Follow-up Report #: NESC-RP-				
Section 7: Disposition and Notification				
Notification type: - Select - Details:				
Date of Notification:				
Final Disposition: - Select - Rationale for Disposition:				
Close Out Review Date:				

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Requirements			

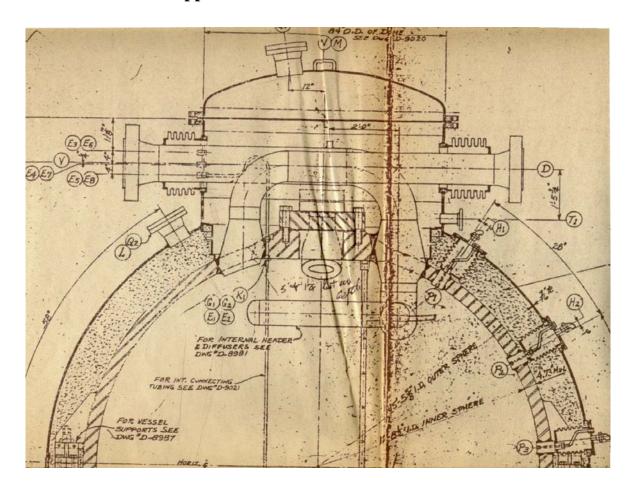
# Form Approval and Document Revision History

Approved:		
	NESC Director	Date

Version	Description of Revision	Office of Primary Responsibility	Effective Date
1.0	Initial Release	Principal Engineers Office	29 Jan 04

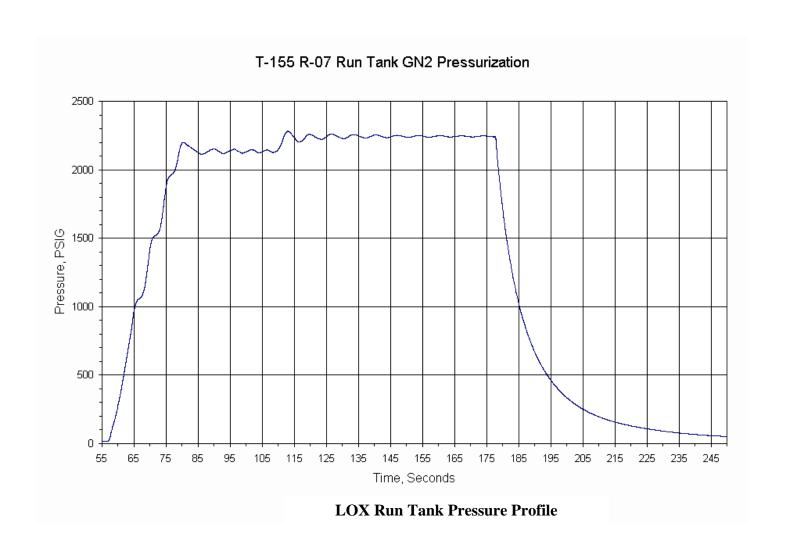
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(HTT) Oxygen Storage Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements				

Appendix B. LOX Run Tank Sketch



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Appendix C. LOX Run Tank Analyses

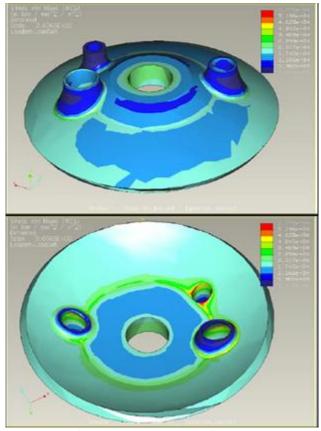


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LOX Run Tank Model

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LOX Run Tank Top Stresses



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Appendix D. NESC Risk Assessment

Rev A Annex



# NESC RISK ASSESSMENT

RISK DEFINITION

Risk: Measure of the potential inability to achieve overall program objectives within defined constraints and has two components: (1) the probability/likelihood of failing to achieve a particular outcome, and (2) the consequences/impacts of failing to achieve that outcome

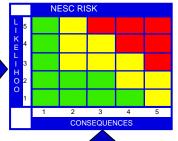
Consequence: Impact (typically categorized as negative) to program/project (loss, injury, disadvantage)

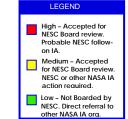
Likelihood: Ordinal scale: Relative ranking of probability of occurrence. Numerical scale: estimated probability an event will occur combined with the uncertainty in the probability assessment

RISK MANAGEMENT: An organized, systematic decision-making process that efficiently identifies risks, assesses or analyzes risks, and effectively reduces or eliminates risks to achieving program goals. (NESC Risk Management Plan)

NESO ASSESSMENT RISK MANAGEMENT APPLICATION (NARMA): The NESC database used to assess and prioritize concerns brought to the attention of the NESC. URL: http://xx

	What is the likelihood the situation or circumstance will				
L	Level	Probability	or	Example	
K E L	5	Very Likely	Likely to occur often. Likelihood of occurrence is estimated to be greater than 0.10 (10-1) per operational opportunity	Lost work case per worker over a 20 year private Industry career	
i H	4	High	Expected to occur some time in the life of the item. Likelihor of occurrence is estimated to be between 0.01 and 0.10 (10-and 10-1) per operational opportunity	ailures per US ELV Launch (1988 - 2001)	
0	3	Moderate	Likely to occur some time in the life of the Item. Likelihood of occurrence is estimated to be between 0.01 and 0.001 (10-2 and 10-3) per operational opportunity.	Place holder	
	2	Low	Unlikely but possible to occur. Likelihood of occurrence is estimated to be between 0.001 and 0.000001 (10-3 and 10-6) per operational opportunity	Fatal crashes per automobile trip	
	1 Very Low Likelihood of occurrence is estimated to be less than .00001 (<10-6) per operational opportunity		Fatal crashes per passenger airplane departure		





1	Safety, Health, Environment is defined as impact to life, health, working environment and natural environment
3	Mission Success definition includes impacts to Major Mission Objectives (MMOs) as well as hardware loss National Significance is defined as the degree to which national
prestige, visibility and public relations are impacted  Safety, Health, Environment, Mission Success and National Significan can exist concurrently and are not mutually exclusive	
	Risk scoring is accomplished by "multiplying" likelihood (f) X  Consequence (C). Note: numerical value is reflective of the ordered pair L, C. Care must be taken when using multiplied falues as
	measures. When determining risk consequence among Cost, Schedule, and Technical, the highest score is represented in the NESC Risk Matrix as a single score value.

What is the Consequence (Safety, Health, Environment, Mission Success, National Significance)				ce) of this NESC		
С	Leve	1	2	3	4	5
Ν	Safety, Health, Environment		Could result in injury or illness not resulting in lost work day / Minimal envirnmtl damage	Could result in injury or occupational illness resulting in one or more lost work day / Mit. envirnmtl damage w/o law viol	Could result in permanent partial disability, injuries or occupational illness / Reversible envinmt damage – violates law	Could result in death or perm. total disability / Irreversible severe environ damage that violates law or regulation
UENC	Mission Success	Hardware loss between \$200K and \$1 Million / Fallure to any one MMO	Hardware loss between \$1M and \$10 Million / Failure to meet > 50% of supplemntl objectives	Hardware loss between \$10M and \$100 Million / Failure to meet any one MMO	/ Failure to meet > 50%	Hardware loss exceeding \$250 Million / Failure to meet all Major Mission Objectives (MMO's)
	National Significance	Minimal or no identified National Prestige or Visibility	Low National Prestige and Visibility	Moderate National Prestige and Visibility	Significant National Prestige and Visibility	High National Prestige and Visibility

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# **Appendix E. List of Acronyms**

AFRL Air Force Research Laboratory

ASME American Society of Mechanical Engineers

GRC Glenn Research Center

HQ Headquarters

HTT High Temperature Tunnel LaRC Langley Research Center

LBB Leak-Before-Burst LOX Liquid Oxygen

NASA National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NESC NASA Engineering and Safety Center

NRB NESC Review Board

OIG Office of Inspector General psig pounds per square inch gage S&MA Safety & Mission Assurance

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	NESC Director	Date

Version	Description of Revision	Office of Primary Responsibility	Effective Date
1.0	Initial Release	NESC Chief Engineer's Office	3/16/06

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#### 13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

#### 14. ABSTRACT

The 8-Foot HTT (refer to Figure 4.0-1) is used to conduct tests of air-breathing hypersonic propulsion systems at Mach numbers 4, 5, and 7. Methane, Air, and LOX are mixed and burned in a combustor to produce test gas stream containing 21 percent by volume oxygen. The NESC was requested by the NASA LaRC Executive Safety Council to review the rationale for a proposed change to the recertification requirements, specifically the internal inspection requirements, of the 8-Foot HTT LOX Run Tank and LOX Storage Tank. The Run Tank is an 8,000 gallon cryogenic tank used to provide LOX to the tunnel during operations, and is pressured during the tunnel run to 2,250 pounds per square inch gage (psig). The Storage Tank is a 25,000 gallon cryogenic tank used to store LOX at slightly above atmospheric pressure as a external shell, with space between the shells maintained under vacuum conditions.

#### 15. SUBJECT TERMS

NESC, LOX, High Temperature Tunnel (HTT), psig, Leak-Before-Burst (LBB), AFRL, Run Tank fatigue; Fracture analysis, inner pressure vessel, external shell

16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
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